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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/645,415	08/24/2000	David G. Bermudes	8002-059-999	3240

20583 7590 12/19/2002

PENNIE AND EDMONDS
1155 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 100362711

EXAMINER

SHUKLA, RAM R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1632

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

The second (or subsequent) supplemental reply filed on 11-8-02 was not entered because a restriction requirement had already been mailed to the applicants before the preliminary amendment was received for entry in the application. It is noted that entry of the amend might require a new office action. See 37 CFR 1.111(a)(2). The examiner spent a significant amount of time on the preparation of an Office action before the reply was received. On the date of receipt of the reply, the examiner had completed the restriction requirement. Furthermore, entry of the reply would require significant additional time in the preparation of the Office action. Specifically, entry of the reply would require the examiner to redetermine restriction election requirement.

A responsive reply (under 37 CFR 1.111 or 37 CFR 1.113 as appropriate) to this Office action must be timely filed to avoid abandonment. If this is not a final Office action, applicant may wish to resubmit the reply along with a responsive reply under 37 CFR 1.111 to ensure proper entry of the reply.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ram R. Shukla whose telephone number is (703) 305-1677. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Reynolds, can be reached on (703) 305-4051. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242. Any inquiry of a general nature, formal matters or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tiffiany N. Tabb whose telephone number is (703) 605-1238.

Ram R. Shukla, Ph.D.


RAM R. SHUKLA, PH.D.
PATENT EXAMINER